

MATWOOD MAGAZINE

:: “Violet” - Alas de Liona ::

Mitch Mosk, Beacon, New York



Perhaps it's only fitting that Alas de Liona's "**Violet**" feels like a dream: It was born of late-night thoughts while she was burning the midnight oil, although the Los Angeles-born, Edinburgh-based singer/songwriter wasn't doing any sleeping - and far less dreaming. The product of restlessness, overthinking, and all those worries that keep us *from* our slumbers, "Violet" is a tender inner reckoning that aches inside and out as the artist bares her soul to the world through her very own brutal musical beauty.

*I'm not victorious
When I am half right
Tear-eyed and glorious*

***In the lamplight
And you're not hard to find
When counting sheep instead of sleeping
It's fine***

"I've heard people interpreting 'Violet' as a love song recently, which is interesting," Liona tells *Atwood Magazine*. "While I suppose a romantic context can be applied, the song (to me) is about insomnia and anxiety. It's about staying awake at night and replaying a conversation or an argument in my head again and again, obsessing and wondering about what could or should have been said. I chose the 'da dm da' chorus to add repetition to this process - something that happens over and over, almost nonsensically, the way those thoughts do."

Liona's lyrics are candid and compelling, poetic and vulnerable - drawing her audience ever-closer to her as "Violet" slowly teases itself out over three minutes' time:

***It's very curious
The way I lose my nerve
What I am looking for
Could be a hollow word I may misstep
And then wake up in some abysmal
Night-sweat of regret***

Released initially as a single in August, "Violet" features on Alas de Liona's recently-released sophomore album *Gravity of Gold*, released September 13, 2024 via Deli Owner Records.

"Thematically, the song 'Violet' is very related to other songs on my album, *Gravity of Gold*, addressing anxiety, depression, and the blurry lines between hope and delusion," she shares. "It's about how we tell and retell ourselves these stories and can often be an unreliable narrator in our own lives."

"That was my original design for the lyrics, but I do believe it will have different meanings to different people and those are valid. If someone hears romance it must be resonating in that way for them and that's really lovely."

***Oh the place I know
The place I've been
And can't forget***

***I take the stairs
Somehow I'm creeping
through a nightmare
And you're there***

Gravity of Gold is certainly worth its weight in... you know... and there is no better proof of that value than "Violet," a visceral upheaval of the soul that arrives to the ears full of lush warmth and an enchanting, irresistible sense of dreamy, incandescent wonder.